Indignation amongst general staff in AIR and Doordarshan

1286. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that staff in general in AIR/Doordarshan is dissatisfies with the meagre chan nels of promotion avenues particuL larly in Staff Artist cadres and also those who have been converted as Govt, servants;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this situation has forced them to approach various Courts including the Central Administrative Tribunals for seeking justice; and

(t) if so, what is the number of such court cases filed by Staff of AIR/Doordarshan including Staff Ar-. tists in Supreme Court, High Courts, labour Courts, Central Administrative Tribunals etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA); (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No one from the Staff Artist cadre in AIR has filed any suit in an$_v$ Court or Tribunal alleging that the available channels of promotion are meagre. As regards Doordarshan, out of a total of 42 categories of Staff Artists including those who have been converted as Government servants or redesignated as Artists, some individuals in the 4 categories only have filed applications in Supreme CoUrt/Tndustrial Tribunal rising issue of thei$_r$ promotional avenues.

Maximum permissible standard deduction for income-tax purpose

1287. PROF. C. ' LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be ■ pleased to state;

(a) whether Government] propose to change the maximum nermissihlp standard deduction for Income-Tax purpose; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY i OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) The Government do not have any proposal to change the maximum permissible standard deduction, under section 16 (i) of the Income-tax Act in respect of income from salaries.

(b) The standard deduction in respect of income from salaries was raised from 'Rs. 6,000 or 25% of the-salary whichever is less' to Rs. 10 000 or 30% of salary whichever is less' by the Finance Act, 1986 w.e.f 1-4-1987. Taking into account further deduc_ tibns in respect of compulsory savings like-contributions to the provident fund and optional savings like the life insurance premia etc., most °f the persons receiving gross salary up to Rs. 34,000 will not be liable to pay income-tax. In view of this and over, all economic policy, the Government do not propose to change the maximum permissible standard deduction under section 16(i) of the Income-tax Act.

Senioritiy case in Chief Administrative Officers office under the ministry of defence.

1288. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY; Will the Minister of DEFENCE b$_e$ pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Administrative Officer withdrew from the defence of the court case$_1$ challenging seniority of Assistants in the Supreme Court in April 1985, which had been fixed according to the provisions of Armed Forces Civil Service Rules 1968;

(b) whether this lapse in not de-